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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.CHINA AND NORTH KOREA SIGN TELEPHONE CONVENTION

Pei-p'ing, 27 January (Hsin-hua) -- China and Korea have ratified a Telephone Convention which was signed by their representatives in Pei-p'ing, 25 December 1949, and which will go into effect on 1 February 1950. The Ministry of Posts and Telegraph has published the complete text of the document, which is as follows:

The Ministry of Posts and Telegraph of the People's Government of the Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as China, and the Ministry of Communications of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, hereinafter referred to as Korea, in order to facilitate telephone communications between the two countries, have mutually agreed upon the following articles:

Article 1. Both parties to this convention agree to establish and maintain the installations and equipment required for the operation of direct long-distance telephone service between the two countries.

Article 2. Long-distance telephone service between China and Korea will provide five types of service: (1) official, (2) urgent private, (3) ordinary private, (4) urgent public business, and (5) ordinary public business telephone conversations. All of the above services are limited to the transmission of the spoken voice.

Article 3. All operators on duty are limited to the use of the Chinese or Korean languages. The places where only the Chinese, only the Korean, or both languages may be used shall be decided upon and such places shall notify each other.

Article 4. The priorities decided upon for telephonic communication between China and Korea are in the following order: (1) official, (2) urgent public business, (3) urgent private, and (4) ordinary private and public business conversations.

Long-distance telephone connections between points in China and points in Korea shall take precedence over long-distance calls between two points in either of the two countries. A telephone conversation in progress between two parties

- 1 -

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50X1-HUM

in the same city may be cut legitimately upon notice of a long-distance call from the other country for one of the busy parties.

Article 5. In case of necessity, either party may at any time temporarily decline to receive and handle private calls; but in that event, it should notify the other party of the suspension of such service.

Article 6. It is decided that direct connection for wire telephone service between China and Korea shall be effected through the following pairs of cities:

Shen-yang -- P'yongyang  
An-tung -- Sinuiju  
T'u-men -- Namyang

Article 7. Four sections in China and two in Korea have arrangements for handling long-distance telephone service. The China sections include:

Section 1. An-tung and T'u-men

Section 2. The six provinces of Liaoning, Liaosi, Heilungkiang, Kirin, Sungkiang, and Jehol (excluding An-tung and T'u-men)

Section 3. The five provinces of Hopeh, Shansi, Pingyuan, Chahar, and Suiyuan, and the territory of the Autonomous Government of Inner Mongolia.

Section 4. Other places

The two sections in Korea are:

Section 1. Sinuiju and Namyang

Section 2. Other places

Both parties shall promptly notify each other of the names of places in the above-mentioned sections where wireless telephone service is available.

Article 8. With reference to the direct exchange of telephone service between China and Korea, the basic rates of charges, method of apportioning expenses, accounting methods of both parties, exchange of bills of account, and method of clearing accounts shall be mutually decided in accord with established international telegraph practice.

Article 9. The rate of charges for official telephone calls shall be one half the basic rate for ordinary private calls; this applies only to official business calls by the Chinese or Korean governments and their representatives. Official telephone calls between China and Korea by the representatives of other countries shall be charged the full rate.

Article 10. The basic unit for telephone charges is the charge for each 3 minutes of an ordinary private telephone call. The charge for a call of less than 3 minutes is the same as for 3 minutes. For each minute, or fraction thereof, in excess of 3 minutes, the charge shall be one third the rate for 3 minutes. The rate for urgent private calls shall be double that for ordinary private calls. A charge of one tenth the normal charge shall be made for canceled calls.

Article 11. No charges shall be made by either party for service calls pertaining to operational matters.

Article 12. Both parties are expected to provide and maintain ample technical equipment and facilities for expeditiously meeting the traffic needs of the two countries. Should either party be obliged for any reason to suspend service resulting in alleged injury to the other party, the party suspending service shall

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

not be held responsible for indemnifying the other party for any injury the latter may have allegedly sustained thereby.

Article 13. The centers of the iron bridges across the Yalu River and the T'u-men Chiang shall be the points for joining the wires or cables employed for wire telephone service between China and Korea. Each country shall be responsible for installing, maintaining, and protecting its wires up to those points. Technical matters pertaining to the connections of wires, standards of maintenance, and joint operation of service shall be arranged by mutual consultation.

Article 14. In the matter of direct telephone connection between China and Korea, decisions as to increasing or decreasing the capacity of the facilities, times of operation, records, relay connections, and details of arrangements for verification of messages shall be made by mutual consultation and agreement as occasion arises.

Article 15. In the management and operation of wire telephone service between China and Korea, both countries, besides complying with the provisions of this convention, shall observe the applicable portions of the International Telecommunications Agreement and its component, the International Telephone Regulations, provided that they are not in conflict with this convention.

Article 16. Written communications between the two countries relative to operational matters should, as far as possible, consist of both a Chinese version and a Korean version of equivalent meaning. Such written communications as pertain to this convention should be kept on file for 2 years.

Article 17. Should the provisions of this convention prove to be lacking or unsuitable in any respect, the convention may be amended by mutual agreement.

Article 18. This convention, after approval by the governments of China and Korea and reciprocal notification of such approval, shall go into effect on 1 February 1950 and remain in effect for 3 years from that date. At any time up to 6 months before the expiration of the term of this convention, either party may notify the other party of its intention to terminate the convention, and in that event, the convention shall be terminated on the date of expiration. If at that time, neither party has signified its intention to terminate the convention, it shall continue in force beyond the date of expiration. Thereafter, either party may at any time give the other party written notification of its intention to terminate the convention, whereupon it shall be terminated 6 months from the date of notification.

This convention shall be prepared in duplicate in the Chinese and Korean languages, and China and Korea shall each retain one copy. The Chinese version and the Korean version shall be of equal effect. Should there be any difference of opinion as to the meaning of any part of the convention, the matter shall be settled by mutual consultation.

This convention was executed 25 December 1949, at Pei-p'ing, the capital of the People's Republic of China, in witness whereof the signatures of the representatives of both parties are hereunto subscribed.

Signed: Wang Tzu-kang (Ueda: 7262, 2262, 8884)  
Huang Ju-tsu (14693, 2031, 8117)  
Sun Ch'uan-hsien (2282, 468, 11397)  
Representing the Ministry of Posts and Telegraph of the People's Republic of China

Signed: Ch'e Ping-t'ing (11740, 8185, 160)  
Sung Li-hsien (2312, 8165, 11397)  
Representing the Ministry of Communications of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

- E N D -

- 3 -

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